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Dr. L. O. Howard, chief of the Bureau of Entomology and distinguished for his contributions to economic entomology, who has served the association as its permanent secretary for twenty-two years, was elected president of the association by unanimous vote. Dr. Howard had previously stated that in view of the great enlargement in the work of the Bureau of Entomology and the increasing responsibilities of the office of the permanent secretary of the association, he felt unable to continue to hold the two offices. The election of a permanent secretary was consequently referred to the executive committee with power and it is now announced that Dr. Burton E. Livingston, professor of plant physiology in the Johns Hopkins University, has been elected to the office. Dr. E. L. Nichols, who retired this year from the active work of the chair of physics at Cornell University, for some years chairman of the committee on policy of the association, was elected general secretary.

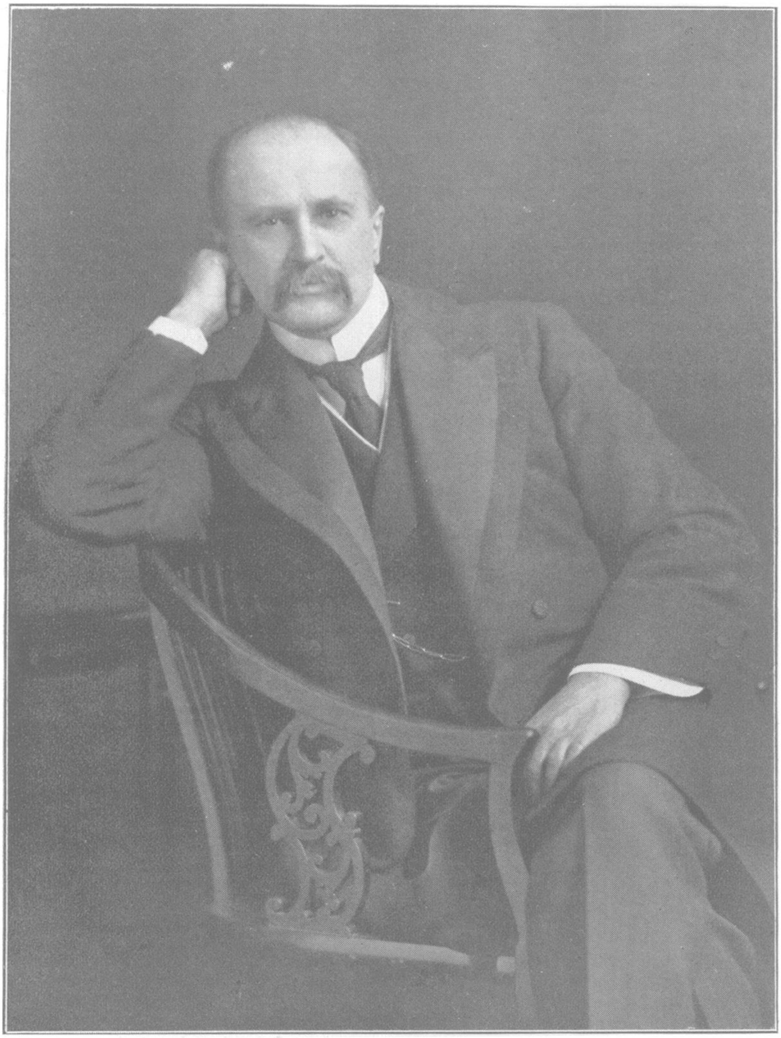
The meeting of the association next year will be held in Chicago and this will be one of larger convocation week meetings held at four-year intervals in Washington, New York and Chicago, in which all the affiliated societies are expected to cooperate. It will probably be the largest and most important meeting of scientific men hitherto held in this country or elsewhere.

THE DUES OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION AND THE SALARIES OF SCIENTIFIC MEN

THE revised constitution of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, as presented at the Baltimore meeting, was adopted at St. Louis with only one substantial change—an increase of the annual dues to five dollars. This change had been recommended, after careful consideration, by the committee on policy and the council and was adopted by unanimous vote at the opening general session of the association. The increase in the dues only meets the general situation. All the expenses of the association have increased in some such proportion, except the salaries of the officers, and it would be unfair to them and a bad example to other institutions, to retain nominal salaries paid in depreciated dollars. This has been done in the case of teachers in many institutions of learning and for scientific men in the service of the government, while commensurate with the increased cost of living have been the increases in wages for many of the working classes, and of the earnings of most professional and business men.

Institutions of learning and the scientific bureaus of the government have suffered alarming losses from their staffs. At the present time many men of science are hesitating between loyalty to their institutions and research work, on the one hand, and duty to the their families and the attraction of new opportunities, on the other. In one government bureau three men are now holding open offers of twenty to thirty thousand dollars a year to see whether the Congress will increase their salaries to six or eight thousand.

If men are driven away from positions where they are using their ability and their training for the general good, and if those who remain are compelled to use time that should be devoted to research or teaching to earning money from outside sources, the future of science and with it the welfare of the nation will be jeopardized. A generation might pass before there would be recovery from the resulting demoralization. It would be indeed humiliating to conquer Germany in war



Sir William Osler,

Regius Professor of Medicine at the University of Oxford and Honorary Professor of Medicine at the Johns Hopkins University, by whose death at the age of seventy years, the Anglo-American world loses its good and great physician.

and then permit it to surpass us in the arts of peace.

It is certainly unfortunate that the American Association should be compelled to increase its dues, as measured in dollars, at a time when all costs are advancing to such an extent that those living on fixed salaries find it extremely difficult to make both ends meet. It would, however, be a still more serious misfortune to permit the work of the association and its publications to be crippled. These are important factors in the advancement of science and in impressing on the general public the place of science in modern civilization and the need of maintaining research work for the national welfare.

The meetings of the association and the publications going to its members and read by a wide public are forces making for appreciation of the value of science to society and the need of giving adequate support to scientific research and to scientific men. Each member of the association contributes to this end and does his part to improve the situation for others as well as for himself. It is consequently to be hoped that no one will permit his membership to lapse on account of the necessary increase in nominal dues, but, on the contrary, that every member use all possible efforts to increase the membership of the association and to promote its influence and its usefulness.

GRANTS FOR RESEARCH OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

At the St. Louis meeting of the association, the council assigned the sum of $4,500 to be expended by the Committee on Grants for Research during the year 1920. The members of the committee for the current year are: Henry Crew, chairman; W. B. Cannon, R. T. Chamberlin, G. N. Lewis, George T. Moore, G. H. Parker, Robert M. Yerkes, and Joel Stebbins, secretary.

The committee will hold a meeting in Washington in the month of April, when the distribution of the grants will be made. Applications for grants may be made under the general rules given below, which were adopted in 1917; but the committee especially invites suggestions from scientific men who may happen to know of cases where young or poorly supported investigators would be greatly helped by small grants.

1. Applications for grants may be made to the member of the committee representing the science in which the work falls or to the chairman or secretary of the committee. The committee will not depend upon applications, but will make inquiry as to the way in which research funds can be best expended to promote the advancement of science. In such inquiry the committee hopes to have the cooperation of scientific men and especially of the sectional committees of the association.
2. The committee will meet at the time of the annual meeting of the association or on the call of the chairman. Business may be transacted and grants may be made by correspondence. In such cases the rules of procedure formulated by the late Professor Pickering and printed in the issue of *Science* for May 23, 1913, will be followed.
3. Grants may be made to residents of any country, but preference will be given to residents of America.
4. Grants of sums of $500 or less are favored, but larger appropriations may be made. In some cases appropriations may be guaranteed for several years in advance.
5. Grants, as a rule, will be made for work which could not be done or would be very difficult to do without the grant. A grant will not ordinarily be made to defray living expenses.
6. The committee will not undertake to supervise in any way the work done by those who receive the grants. Unless otherwise provided, any apparatus or materials purchased will be the property of the individual receiving the grant.
7. No restriction is made as to publication, but the recipient of the grant should in the publication of his work acknowledge the aid given by the fund.
8. The recipient of the grant is expected to make to the secretary of the